

Editor's Corner

The Bruffey Family



BORN-FOCA-
hontastan, now
living in Vir-
giana. Rue
Dowdy has sub-
mitted mater-
ial on Bruffey
family history for your
present reading and for the
editor's possible gleaming for
the encyclopedia. The mater-
ial comes as clippings from
the pen and hand-set type of
the late and great Cal Price
and time of printing is 1933.

THE BRUFFEYS

The Bruffeys held their
family reunion on Bruffeys
Creek on August 26, 1933.
A goodly number of the re-
lationship was present and
the occasion was greatly en-
joyed by all.

John Bruffey was born in
the north of Ireland in 1752.
He married Nellie MacDon-
ald, of Scotland, and they
moved to America prior to
the Revolution. In this war he
served as a soldier under
General Anthony Wayne. He
was killed in the year 1807
by being thrown from a horse.
The horse scared at a deer
at the stone trough on the
lands of M. J. McNeel. He
was buried in the McNeel
graveyard. His grave is
marked by a stone lettered by
his son John.

John and Nellie MacDon-
ald Bruffey were the parents
of three sons, Mark, John and
Patrick.

Mark married a Miss Lewis
and lived in Monroe county.
They had a son, Rev. George;
his sons were Fletcher and
Samuel; the latter was the
father of Mrs. George B.
Miner, of Warren, Ohio, who
was a missionary in China for
a number of years; returning
home to care for her sister's
children.

John Jr. married Elizabeth
Hill and settled on Bruffeys
Creek. They were the par-
ents of three sons and seven
daughters — Murry, Brad-
ford and John.

Murry married Elizabeth
Crab of Nicholas county.
They were the parents of three
sons and three daughters: Wil-
liam, Robert, Richard. Eliza-
beth became the wife of
Wesley Hill; Nancy, wife of
Henry Rogers, and Margaret,
wife of Hugh Denton. De-
puty Sheriff R. M. Bruffey,
and A. W. Hill are grand-
sons of Murry Bruffey.

Bradford married Mary
Watts of Greenbrier county.
They had three sons and four
daughters. Newton, late of
Renick; Frank, deceased;
Squire T. A. Bruffey, of
Bruffeys Creek; Elizabeth
Whiting; Serene Grimes, Bird
Shisler, Ida Sarver.

John Bruffey III, married
Margaret Hill and went west.

The daughters of John 2nd
were Eliza Moore, of Edray;
George P. Moore was her son.
Harriet, wife of Wesley Cruik-
shanks, of Nicholas. Levina,
wife of Chyborne Blair; went
west. Mrs. Jennie Lynch of
Neola, Mrs. Annie Dotson and
Culbison, of the west are her
children. Julia became the
wife of a McClure; the late
Mathew was her only son.
Margaret became the wife of
Morgan Anderson. They had
three children. Elizabeth be-
came the wife of Samuel Mc-
Carty, and moved to Ver-
mont; C. J. McCarty was her
son. The Anderson became
Mrs. Shannon Clutter; Erle
Clutter is their son. Dickson
Anderson married Sarah Mc-
Coy. Mrs. P. C. Curry is
their daughter.

Nancy Bruffey became the
wife of Levi Hooker, clock-
maker, and Martha Bruffey
became the wife of James
Ewing. Both families went to
Nicholas county.

Patrick Bruffey was born
May 2, 1785, and died Feb-
ruary 3, 1853. His wife was
Anne Slaven, daughter of John
Slaven, head of Greenbrier
River. He was a skilled work-
man in wood, iron and stone.
He was a miller, too, and own-
ed the mill near Greenbank.
His family consisted of six
daughters and two sons. Polly
Mathews was born January
29, 1813, and died Novem-
ber 1, 1849. She became the
wife of John H. Ruckman.

February 7, 1811. Her son
died, wife Caroline, of
William J. Cockey, of
Ing Creek, Sidney, who mar-
ried Almira Campbell, son
Charles teacher, born
in Oklahoma. Nancy Catherine
born April 6, 1814, died Octo-
ber 1, 1888; wife of Ben Er-
vine, and was the mother of
eleven children. One son
James was a Confederate
soldier and was killed in the
presence of his mother.

James, born January 23,
1816, married Margaret Ann
Hartman and went to Lewis
county.

Elizabeth Slaven Bruffey,
born March 24, 1818, became
the wife of Addison Ervine and
went west.

Priscilla Bruffey became
the wife of Lorenson Pugh
and went to Webster county.

Caroline Margaret Bruffey,
born September 18, 1822, died
August 14, 1853; became the
wife of James Watts Ruck-
man October 14, 1852. Her
child was William Wallace
Ruckman, who lived on Stamp-
ing Creek, where his children,
D. E. and Maggie, now re-
side.

Sarah Ann Bruffey, born

November 7, 1824, died No-
vember 6, 1895, became the
wife of James G. Hamilton,
October 9, 1851. A daughter,
Hester, became the wife of
Robert Brown, County Sur-
veyor. R. W. Brown is their
son.

William Slaven Bruffey,
born December 2, 1826, mar-
ried Mary J. Hamilton, went
to Missouri. He died March
14, 1873. M. R.

THE BRUFFEYS

John Bruffey was born in the north of Ireland in 1762. He married Nellie MacDonald, of Scotland, an ancestral kinsman of Ramsay MacDonald, prime minister of the British Empire. John and Nellie MacDonald Bruffey moved to America prior to the Revolution. In this war he served as a soldier under General Anthony Wayne. He was killed in the year of 1807 by being thrown from a horse. The horse scared at a deer at the stone through the lands of M.J. McKeel. He was buried in the McKeel graveyard. His grave is marked by a stone lettered by his son, John.

To the marriage of John and Nellie MacDonald Bruffey were born three sons, Mark, John and Patrick.

Mark married a Miss Lewis and lived in Monroe County. They had a son, Rev. George Bruffey; his sons were Fletcher and Samuel; the latter was the father of Mrs. George B. Winter of Warren, Ohio, who was a missionary in China for a number of years; returning home to care for her sister's children.

John, Jr., married Elizabeth Hill and settled on Bruffey's Creek. They were the parents of three sons and three daughters - William, Robert, Richard. Elizabeth became the wife of Wesley Hill; Nancy, the wife of Henry Boggs; and Margaret the wife of Haggai Denison. Deputy Sheriff R.M. Bruffey and A.W. Hill were grandsons of Murray Bruffey.

Bradford married Mary Watts, of Greenbrier County. They had three sons and four daughters. Newton, late of Renick; Frank, deceased; Squire T.A. Bruffey, of Bruffey's Creek; Elizabeth Whiting; Serene Grimes; Bird Shieler; and Ida Sarver.

John Bruffey, III, married Margaret Hill and went west.

The daughters of John, 2nd, were Eliza Moore, of Edray; George P. Moore was her son. Harriet, wife of Wesley Cruikshanks, of Nicholas. Levina, wife of Clayborne Blair; went west, Mrs. Jennie Lynch of Noola, Mrs. Annie Dotson and Culbinson, of the west are her children. Julia became the wife of a McClure; the late Mathew was her only son. Margaret became the wife of Morgan Anderson. They had three children. Elizabeth became the wife of Samuel McCarty and moved to Vermont. C.J. McCarty was her son. Thomas Anderson became Mrs. Shannon Clutter; Eric Clutter is their son. Dickson Anderson married Sarah McCoy; Mrs. P.C. Curry is their daughter.

Nancy Bruffey became the wife of Levi Hooker, clockmaker and Martha Bruffey became the wife of James Ewing. Both families went to Nicholas County.

Patrick Bruffey was born 5 May 1785 and died 3 Feb. 1853. His wife was Annie Slaven, daughter of John Slaven, head of Greenbrier River. He was a skilled workman in wood, iron and stone. He was a miller, too, and owned the mill near Greenbank. His family consisted of six daughters and two sons. Polly Mathews was born 29 Jan. 1812 and died 1 Nov. 1849. She became the wife of John H. Ruckman 7 Feb 1832. Her children were Caroline, wife of William J. Cackloy, of Stamping Creek; Sidney, who married Almira Campbell; their son Charles taught school for the Indians in Oklahoma.

Nancy Catherine born 6 April 1814 died 1 Oct 1888; wife of Ben Irvine, and was the mother of eleven children. One son, James was a Confederate soldier and was killed in the presence of his mother.

James, born 28 Jan. 1816 married Margaret Ann Hartman and went to Lewis County.

Elizabeth Slaven Bruffey, born 24 March 1818, became the wife of Addison Irvine and went west.

Priscilla Bruffey became the wife of Lorenson Pugh and went to Webster County.

Caroline Margaret Bruffey, born 18 Sept. 1822, died 14 Aug 1853; became the wife of James Watts Ruckman 14 Oct. 1852. Her child was William Wallace Ruckman, who lived on Stamping Creek where his children D. W. and Maggio Ruckman now reside.

Sarah Ann Bruffey, born 7 Nov. 1824, died 6 Nov. 1895, became the wife of James G. Hamilton, 9 Oct. 1851. A daughter, Hester became the wife of Robert Brown; County surveyor R. W. Brown was their son.

William Slaven Bruffey, born 2 Dec. 1826, married Mary J. Hamilton and went to Missouri. He died 14 March 1873.

The Bruffeys were of an inventive turn of mind. One of the Pocahontas family worked for many years on the unsolved problem of "perpetual motion." The inventor developed a machine so finely poised that a grain of wheat would start a large wheel turning, but it could not be controlled and the longer it ran the greater became the speed, until it would finally tear itself to pieces. Bruffey's last effort was to start the wheel and watch it fling itself into fragments as it dashed off into space.

There are no millionaires among the Bruffeys, but there might have been, for it was a Bruffey who invented the hillside plow, the instrument that has probably done more to draw wealth from the soil than any other one farm implement. An unscrupulous lawyer of Washington stole the patent and thus the Bruffeys lived quietly on, content to hear

uppl... draw water. They are pastoral people and agricultural people and have never
aspired to positions of honor and trust in the affairs of state.

If you could get a correct measure of such as Tom Bruffey from old Pocahontas, pull down
your Bobby Burns and read again Cotter's Saturday Night. It will be like a fresh breeze
in the twilight on a summer's night, and your heart will feel ^a warm glow as you touch the
soil afresh on Scotland's sunny braes.

Note: From the tombstone in the McKeel graveyard, Hillsboro, West Virginia:

JOHN BRUFFEY

Native of Ireland and Revolutionist under General Wayne, U.S.A.

Died in 1807 - aged 55 which would make his birth date 1752. This tombstone was made
by his son John Bruffey and inscribed as that was his business. His wife was Nellie
McDonald, English, who came before the Revolution. Children: Patrick was as far as I can
find out a carpenter and contractor, Mark, was a preacher and went to Monroe Co., W. Va.
John lived in Pocahontas County, buried in the Hill Cemetery, Lobelia, West Virginia

THE BRUFFEYS

The BRUFFEYS held their reunion of the family on Bruffeys Creek on Aug. A goodly number of the relationship was present and the occasion was great all.

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John, Jr., married Elizabeth Hill and settled on Bruffeys Creek. They were the parents of three sons and seven daughters---Murray, Bradford and John.

Murray married Elizabeth Craig of Nicholas County. They were the parents of three sons and three daughters---William, Robert, Richard. Elizabeth became the wife of Wesley Hill; Nancy, wife of Henry Boggs; and Margaret the wife of Haggai Denison. Deputy Sheriff R. M. Bruffoy and A. W. Hill are grandsons of Murray Bruffey.

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This is the latest picture of Mrs. Mollie Bruffy, who died Monday. She is pictured here with a doll that was given her when she was a child at Calvin.

Mollie Bruffy, 61, Dies

Funeral services were to have been conducted at 2:30 today for Mrs. Mollie Bruffy, 61, wife of George Bruffy of La Frank, who died Monday morning, October 29, in the Sacred Heart Hospital.

Rev. J. E. Brown, pastor of La Frank's New Prospect Baptist Church, was to officiate, and burial was to follow in the Little Union Cemetery at Calvin with the White and Coleman Funeral Home in charge.

Mrs. Bruffy, a member of the New Prospect Baptist Church and of the Rebecca Lodge, was born at Calvin June 7, 1895, the daughter of the late Hamilton and Amanda Bredon.

Survivors besides her husband include one daughter, Mrs. Beulah Tonry of Cincinnati, Ohio; one brother, Ervin Bredon, also of Cincinnati; one half-brother, Justus Bredon of Morgantown; one half-sister, Mrs. Ruth Curry of Calvin.

Elizabeth Bruffey became the wife of John Bruffey and went to Missouri.

Caroline Margaret Bruffey, born 20 Sept. 1822, died 11 Aug. 1893; became the wife of James Watts Ruckman 14 Oct. 1852. Her child was William Wallace Ruckman, who lives on Stamping Creek where his children D. E. and Maggie Ruckman now reside.

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Bruffey Reunion

On August 25 the Bruffey family of West Virginia held a largely attended and worth reunion at Webster Springs. The following comments on the occasion are from the Webster Springs Republican.

With the arrival of the chairman of the program committee in the afternoon an hour of reminiscence was introduced by Tom Bruffey, in the course of which a brief history of the family in America was given. From this historical account we gathered a few interesting facts and likewise gathered many more from private conversations with some of the Pocahontas visitors.

Miss Maggie Ruckman seems to be the recognized historian of this family. It was revealed that a certain John Bruffey of Scotch-Irish descent came from Ireland prior to the Revolution and settled in the neighborhood of Hillsboro, about fifteen miles from Marlinton on the Greenbrier River. He brought an attractive bride from among the Shamrocks of his native heath when he came to America, whose name was Nellie McDonald, and an ancestral kinsman of Ramsay McDonald, prime minister of the British Empire. The Bruffeys have studiously avoided public statement concerning the relationship with such royal personages, but in West Virginia it is no secret to know that Tom Bruffey, who opened this reminiscent hour is a cousin of England's great prime minister.

We learned that Bruffeys were an inventive turn of mind. One of the Pocahontas family worked for many years on the unsolved problem of "perpetual motion". The inventor developed a machine so finely ~~lax~~ poised that a grain of wheat would start a large wheel turning, but it could not be controlled and the longer it ran the greater became the speed until it would finally tear itself to pieces. Bruffey's last effort was to start the wheel and watch it fling itself into fragments as it dashed off into space.

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If you would get a correct measure of such men as Tom Bruffey from old Poca, pull down your Bobby Burns and read again Cotter's Saturday Night. It will be like a fresh breeze in the twilight on a summer's night, and your heart will feel a warm glow as you touch the soil afresh on Scotland's sunny braes.